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CONTENTS

Ideological Affairs..... 1  
Russo-Ukrainian Friendship..... 6  
Party Activities..... 7  
Shortcomings..... 8

SUMMARY

Reports on ideological weaknesses are substantial in volume and follow a familiar pattern. The education of children is said to be part of the "ideological front" activities which also include the People's Courts and the science of astronomy. Most of the regional criticism is directed against writers and composers, particularly in the Ukraine. The situation in the Kazakh SSR has reached serious proportions. Communist education in the Party school network is referred to as the weak spot of Party activities. Corruption and nepotism are imputed to the Party organization of the Ministry of Labor Reserves and there are allusions to friction between that organization and Ministry officials. Discussion of agricultural shortcomings continues to center on the livestock industry and the inefficient utilization of technical equipment.

IDEOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

There is much regional comment on the failings of Soviet writers, particularly in the Ukraine and the Don region. That the Union of Soviet Writers is taking this adverse criticism seriously is indicated by the various republican and oblast meetings called in rapid succession to cure the ideological illnesses. The PRAVDA article on ideological perversions in art and literature (2 July) is still the primary item on the agenda of these gatherings.

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- 2 -

A summarized report from Kiev (in Ukrainian, 19 October) says that a plenary session of the Union of Soviet Composers is now reviewing the works of the Ukrainian composers written during the past year in the light of the PRAVDA article. Another report from the Ukrainian capital (29 October) speaks of the inter-oblast conference of young writers of Kherson, Izmail, Odessa and Nikolayev oblasts convened to discuss "measures for improving the creative work of young authors in the light of the PRAVDA article...."

MOLOT (21 October), discussing the inter-oblast conference of writers from Don, Kuban, Crimea and Stavropol scheduled to open on 22 October, says that the purpose of that gathering is to look into the "numerous defects" in the work of the Writers' Union. The main defect, according to the paper, is that many of the Don writers and poets "continue to lag behind ... current events," and that present-day reality is not reflected in their works. The reluctance of some writers and poets to criticize their colleagues' work lest they themselves be criticized in turn is censured by the paper as one of their cardinal sins. The DON ALMANACH, recently published as an aid to literary groups, is cited as an example of a "formalistic and heedless attitude" toward the works of young writers.

Referring to the situation in Rostov oblast, the same editorial says that the oblast writers "have not yet created an important work about the heroic working class or its struggle for Communism." The paper accordingly enjoins the men of letters not to be carried away by literary abstractions and to confine their creative activities to current events for "who but the writers and poets ... should sing the praises of the great Communist building projects."

Additional mention of the inter-oblast conference appears in a dispatch from Rostov on 24 October. No details of the conference are given but its importance is implicitly emphasized in the announcement that it was attended by a representative of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and by the secretary of the USSR Writers' Union. The latter is quoted as calling upon the writers "not to forget" their responsibility to the people, the Motherland and Stalin.

A specific complaint is voiced by RABOCHIY PUT (24 October). It declares editorially that the Smolensk oblast writers are not following life very closely, and that their contacts with economic and cultural progress are "loose." The book "Black River" by Shiryugin is referred to as "a bad job" and is said to be "politically perverse."

The "low ideological level" (nizkiy ideologichesky uroven) of independent artistic work in Kherson oblast is the subject of NADNEPRYANSKA PRAVDA's editorial (24 October). The paper lists a number of railway station clubs, amateur art groups and other cultural institutions and says that their activities still betray ideological and artistic weaknesses for which there is no excuse. It is claimed also that PRAVDA's admonitions against ideological perversions, as exemplified by the opera "Bogdan Khmelnytsky," remain unheeded.

ORLOVSKAYA PRAVDA (28 October) says it would be a mistake "not to note" the serious blunders and shortcomings in the amateur art activities in the oblast. Bureaucratic and formalistic leadership on the part of the Party, trade union and Komsomol organizations is blamed for the failings of this "important sector" of ideological work. This explains, concludes the paper, why amateur groups are often headed by people "having nothing in common with either art or popular creative work."

A report from Kiev (in Ukrainian, 31 October) tells of the plenary session of the Union of Soviet Ukrainian writers and its probing into the Republic's ideological affairs. The chairman of the Union Veryovka admitted that the mistakes and shortcomings tolerated by the organization "have led to the appearance in the Ukraine of a series of ideologically poor works." This lack of progress in Ukrainian art, as noted by the session, is condemned with particular vehemence in view of the fact that "a long time has passed since the appearance of the PRAVDA article." Soviet ballet is also referred to as "weak." Svechnikov's ballet "Marusya Boguslavskaya" and Natolsky's "Chuvstvo Dovbusha," said to be worthy of popular commendation, were relegated to oblivion because of the failure of other composers to give them "proper support."

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- 3 -

The Ukrainian composers are also belabored at the session for their failure to produce anything worthwhile for children, the cinema and musical shows. Far from attempting to discover mistakes in the works of other composers, they have committed many of their own. The low theoretical and professional level of musical criticism is responsible for the appearance of a number of ideological perversions in Ukrainian art and the sorry state of affairs in musical arts in particular.

A long, unsigned PRAVDA article on anti-patriotic views in literary criticism (21 October) takes issue with critic Gurvich's recent article published in the magazine NOVIY MIR (New World). Gurvich, it appears, "has relapsed" into the mood of his unpatriotic, cosmopolitan colleagues of 1949 by his implicit references to Russian classical literature being unable to produce a "positive hero," a true representative of the people. The paper fulminates against this critic who portrays the heroes of Russian literature as "idle people" (prazdnie lyudi) who manifest their virtues "exclusively in love affairs."

This critic's attitudes toward Soviet literature, PRAVDA maintains, are just about as reactionary and anti-Marxian as are his views on Russian literature. His anti-patriotic treatment of the "great heritage of the Russian classicists" is said to be comparable to his attempts to minimize "the most advanced features" of Soviet literature. Gurvich's book "In Search of A Hero" (published some time ago) is recalled as a typical example. In it, says PRAVDA, he developed the idea (provodil mysl) that Soviet literature never produced a "genuine hero" (nastoyashchi geroi). Among his other aberrations, it is pointed out, are his references to the "split personality" (razdvoynost) and "harmful nature" (ushcherbnost) of the heroes of Soviet literature.

PRAVDA declares that such mistakes in Gurvich's work are neither accidental nor isolated, and calls the critic's attention to the fate of his "anti-patriotic and cosmopolitan" colleagues who "were unmasked and condemned" by the Party in 1949. He is also reminded that he was part of that group. Gurvich's article, the paper concludes, is another reminder that "the liberal attitude toward attempts to inject alien anti-patriotic views into literary criticism" must be done away with once and for all.

Ideology in School Training: The ideological aspect is the most important thing in the education of school children, says a RYANSKE PODILYE editorial (in Ukrainian, 16 October). The right ideological direction (pravilnaya ideologicheskaya napravlenost), according to the paper, is indispensable in the education of children in the spirit of Communist morality which is "the basis for the work" of every Soviet school.

Another important aspect of school education, as stressed by the same editorial, is the inculcation of a "socialist attitude toward common property." The issue is raised because, according to the paper, this important element in the system of Communist education has been left out in a number of schools, particularly in Gorodokskiy rayon, due to the "formal attitude" toward the planning of educational work.

People's Judges: The election of people's judges in the Ukraine, set for 16 December, occasions some editorial comment on the lower echelons of the judicial branch of government. BOLSHEVITSKA ZBROYA (30 October) complains of the "very low ideological level" in the work of some judges, especially in Trostianitsky rayon. The paper complains that a number of judges are wont of examining cases one-sidedly and that their political assessment of facts is very low. Any deviation from such political and ideological considerations on the part of the court, the paper intimates, constitutes a serious infringement of the rules of procedure and "debases the political role" of the court of justice. Reiterating that the "judges are independent and subject only to the law," BOLSHEVITSKA ZBROYA says that their shortcomings and deviations must be fought "with resolution," and urges the appropriate Party and Soviet organizations to create indispensable conditions for their normal functioning.

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- 4 -

ZAYA POLTAVSHCHINY (30 October) urges a widespread campaign to "explain to the workers" the significance of the court of justice and why it should assume first-rank importance in a socialist state. The function of the court, according to the paper, is "the elimination of the remnants of private property customs and ... reinforcement of socialist property ...." In that capacity it is said to be serving the interests of the State and those of the people. RADYANSKA UKRAINA (30 October) discusses the theme along similar lines but defines the function of the court as primarily "guarding the State interests" and "resting on the support of the people." The protection of socialist property is, as the paper points out, "one of the most important tasks" of the courts, and they should not hesitate to mete out "severe penalties against thieves of communal property."

"Idealism" in Astronomy: Prof. Agamezov interprets the conflict between science and religion (Stavropol in Russian, 19 October) as the inevitable struggle between materialism and idealism. The latter, he says, was born of religious superstition and is used by the exploiters for their own ends. All the "unscientific drivel" still supported by contemporary bourgeois science is debunked by advanced Soviet science. This "idealism", says Agamezov, is employed by the bourgeoisie in many branches of science, particularly in astronomy. Such brave scientists as Copernicus, Galileo and Bruno are cited as having followed the same anti-church line in astronomy as now held by Soviet scientists. The word "unknown" itself, according to Agamezov, is unscientific and therefore also idealistic since "there is no such thing in the world as the unknown--it is a mere matter of time."

Ideology in Kazakhstan: There is evidence that Moscow's mounting concern over matters of ideology in Kazakh SSR, a target of frequent official attacks, is being translated into action reminiscent of the purges in 1949. The familiar pattern of nervous Party activities preceding such action is revealed in a PRAVDA dispatch from Alma Ata by Chernichenko on 20 October.

The plenary session of the Central Committee of the Kazakh Party, called to look into ideological deviations in the Republic, traces the source of evil to the highest echelons of the Party itself, including the principal speaker of the session, First Secretary of the Central Committee Shayakhmetov. Noting that the general level (obshchi uroven) of ideological work in the Republic is "still not up to the requirements of today" (eshche ne otvechayet trebovaniyam segodniashnyago dnia), the speaker is said to have admitted that the "crudest distortions of a bourgeois-nationalist nature" have crept into the treatment of historical sciences.

It appears that the Kazakh bourgeois-nationalist men of letters have "over a long period of time" (na protiazhenii dlitel'nogo vremeni) sung praises to Kenesara Kasymov's movement of 1820-1840 for the secession of Kazakhstan from Russia. These same literati, it is claimed, pass over in silence and distort (umalchivayut i iskazhayut) the progressive significance of Kazakhstan's "voluntary unification" with Russia. Similar "crude distortions" are revealed also in the arts and in school text books. Shayakhmetov names a number of well known Kazakh writers who "have gone a little too far" (chrezmerno uvlekalis) in their favorable description of life in the ancient days of the feudal Bey regime.

Pleading guilty to his own admiration of Kenesara Kasymov which he made public in 1944, the speaker also points an accusing finger to the Central Committee secretary for ideological affairs Omarov who, he says, failed to foresee the present state of affairs and act in time.

The scope of this official investigation into Kazakhstan's ideology may be judged from the charges and counter charges that followed Shayakhmetov's address. Prominent mention, in this connection, is made of the Central Committee's Agitation and Propaganda Department, the Ministry of Cinematography, the Writers' Union, the Kazakh Academy of Sciences and State University. What makes this probe sound like a portent of worse things to come is the casual reference in Chernichenko's article to the "insufficiently convincing arguments" (nedostatochno ubeditelnie dovody) of the accused in their attempt to exonerate themselves.

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- 5 -

Following are some of the ideological sins highlighted in the course of the session:

1. The entire bureau of the Central Committee and its secretaries are responsible for the present ideological mess, according to Zhanbayev, Secretary of the Kustanai regional Party Committee;
2. KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA editor Nikitin discloses that Secretary Omarov forbade the publication of available materials exposing the nationalist sentiment in Kazakh sciences;
3. Khrankov, head of the Agitation and Propaganda Department, admits the accuracy (pravilnost) of the session's criticism but claims that he and his colleagues "were afraid to shake" (boyalis pokolebat) Shayakhmetov's and Omarov's views on Kenesara's 19th century movement;
4. The Plenum considers the speech of Satpayev (head of the Academy of Sciences) as "unsatisfactory." He failed to explain why proven bourgeois-nationalists and "persons casual to science" (sluchainie lyudi v nauke) are still hanging on (podviazvayutsia) to various scientific research institutes. He is also accused of having concealed "until quite recently" the fact that he published an anti-Marxian brochure in 1927;
5. Tadjibayev, rector of the Kazakh State University, made a statement in self-defense which is said to have "a strange sound" (stranno prozvuchala). A "zealous defender" (ryanny zaschitnik) of the already exposed bourgeois nationalists, he is accused of placing them as university instructors, attacking the Communist critics of the University and generally suppressing criticism.

KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA's comment on the Central Committee session (21 October) is restrained. There is no reference to the Committee itself or its secretaries as being involved in the current investigation and only a few officials below the Central Committee level and several writers are singled out for editorial strictures. The Kazakh Ministry of Education, including Minister Sembayev, is reviled for its "loss of political vigilance" (utrata politicheskoy bditelnosti) because it permitted the publication of text books containing bourgeois-nationalist tendencies. It was the works of the reactionary (historian) Bekmakanov, according to the paper, which popularized the bourgeois-nationalist views on Kenesara's movement. And these views, it is claimed, were propagated in the first and second editions of the history of the Kazakh SSR. The paper also belabors the Party organization of the Kazakh Writers' Union for failing to unmask (razoblachit) the nationalistic views of such writers as Izmailov, Dzhumaliev, Bekkhozhiy, Musrepov and others. There is no specific reference to the works of these writers or to the extent of their ideological deviations.

The Kazkh Academy of Sciences is dealt with again in a KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA editorial on 26 October. The Academy is believed to have committed a grave error by accepting a "politically injurious" thesis on Abay's history of literature. No details of the thesis are mentioned but the very selection of it is termed "the most outstanding shortcoming" in the work of the Academy. The thesis is described as propagating "anti-scientific, bourgeois, anti-Bolshevik and fascist" ideas and having nothing in common with historical reality. The Presidium of the Kazakh Academy of Sciences and a number of its (unnamed) officials are further accused of placing themselves "apart from the community" and paying insufficient attention to the political qualifications of post-graduate students, many of whom "are clearly not suited for scientific work." This, says the paper, is a violation of the "principle of Bolshevik selection," because a thesis, regardless of the subject matter involved, "must prove (the student's) ... ideological state of preparedness."

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- 6 -

## RUSSO-UKRAINIAN FRIENDSHIP

Nozova speaks of the close similarity between the Great Russian and Ukrainian people, on the one hand, and places considerable emphasis on the "advanced democratic culture" of the Great Russians, on the other. (24 October) The Russian and Ukrainian people, says she, "were born in the same cradle ... are kin as regards language, habitation, character and history." Developing the theme, Nozova pictures the Great Russians as the saviors of Ukrainian freedom on numerous occasions. She intimates that the October revolution in the Ukraine had been stoutly opposed by its nationalist and pro-German elements and could not have been ushered in without the aid of the Great Russians:

If it were not for Soviet Russia and the Great Russian people ... the Ukraine would be languishing under the yoke of the interventionists, and the Ukrainian workers and peasants would have been turned into slaves.

Russian version:

Esli by ne Sovetskaya Rossiya, esli by ne velikiy russkiy narod ...  
Ukraina stonala by pod igom interventov, a ukrainskie rabochie i  
krestyane prevratilis by v rabov.

Nozova debunks the theory of alleged Ukrainian-German friendship advanced by the Ukrainian nationalists, and points to the "beneficent influence" and "direct assistance" of the Great Russian people since the times of Bogdan Khmel'nitsky. (Not mentioned, of course, is the fact that Bogdan Khmel'nitsky who led the movement for Ukrainian independence in the 1640's against Poland was equally opposed to the Muscovy government). The crowning effect of Russo-Ukrainian relations is said to have been attained after the October Revolution when, with the unification of the Ukrainians and Russians, the "advanced part of the Ukrainian people began to assimilate the Great Russian culture even more."

An allusion to Ukrainian aspirations to independence after the October Revolution is seen in Nozova's reference to the "reactionary" Ukrainian Central Council (Tsentralna Rada Ukrainy), the provisional government of the Ukraine in 1918 which, when attacked by the Red Army, "turned to the Western imperialists for help." Of some interest here are the alleged connections between the Central Council and Bukharin and Trotsky who, according to Nozova, assisted the Council in its "dastardly act" of seeking separation from Russia. This reference to the Brest-Litovsk Treaty--whereby "the Ukraine was separated from the Soviet Union and turned into a German colony"--and its association with Trotsky (who was deputized by Lenin to negotiate it) is both a reminder of past sins and a warning against "unpopular" ideas on the part of the Ukrainians. The mutual interests of the two nations, the lecturer concludes, demands "not separation" but a stronger union of the Russians and the Ukrainians within the framework of a "single state."

The benefits derived by the Western Ukrainian oblasts from their unification with Soviet Ukraine are listed in a RATAU dispatch to the local press (29 October). Subsidies paid to mothers of many children and the distribution of films in the rural areas--unheard of before unification--are cited as some of the major advantages. For all this, the dispatch concludes, the people of Western Ukraine "assure" Stalin and the Party of their loyalty.

An anonymous talk on "The United Family of Soviet Peoples" (Stavropol, 25 October) compares the "violence and robbery" in the relations between the various components of the British Empire with the Soviet constituent republics where "the most open trust and friendship" are manifested. The comparison is carried further by citing American crimes in subduing the "defenseless Indians," and Britain's forcible seizure of foreign lands while in the Soviet Union "there was complete acquiescence on the part of non-Russian populations." Stalin is quoted as authority for the "guiding principle" that if people do not want to unite, no one will force them. The Uzbek and Turkmen republics are said to provide an example of such voluntary unification. The full-equality argument is finally clinched by stressing the republics' right to independent action in foreign affairs.

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- 7 -

## PARTY ACTIVITIES

Ministry of Labor Reserves: A PRAVDA article by Pishenina (21 October) states bluntly that the Party organization in the Ministry of Labor Reserves is hamstrung by "a series of grave difficulties and stumbling blocks" (ryad seryoznykh trudnostei i pomekh) created by Ministry officials. The main target of attack, however, is not the Ministry but the Party Organization itself. Minister Pronin himself, Pishenina complains, "fenced himself off" (otgorodilsya) from the Party organization, and access to him is made difficult not only for rank-and-file Communists but also for members of the Party Committee. The Ministry Collegium and other high officials "do not lean too much" (malo opirayutsya) on the Party organization in their daily activities. The suppression of adverse criticism within the Ministry, according to Pishenina, has become standard procedure. In some cases "an atmosphere of ill-will is created" (sozdayotsya obstanovka nedobrozhelatelstva) to discourage further complaints. In others, criticism is "heard and given the silent treatment" (vyslushivayetsya ... i zamalchivayetsya). The result is that a number of honest Communist critics are shifted to other jobs, demoted or even dismissed.

Another serious charge against the Ministry is the violation of the Bolshevik principle (narushenie bolshevitskogo printsipa) in the selection and distribution of qualified personnel. Two specific cases of nepotism and corruption are detailed by Pishenina. Bermaid Nikitina who had been dismissed for squandering (State) funds was appointed to an executive post in the personnel department by Deputy Minister Likovenkov. The other case is that of Oreshkin, head of the Ministry's Economic Department, who cheated the Government and abused his position for "personal gains" (v korystnykh tselyakh). The Party organization exposed his activities and called for (disciplinary) action but Oreshkin still remains at his post.

The responsibility for all that, Pishenina concludes, rests squarely on the shoulders of the Party organization. The latter is reminded that it is "the keeper of proper Soviet order" (blyustitel nastoyashchego sovetского poriyadka) in the Ministry and the guardian of the State interests, and is capable of remedying the situation without directly interfering in the Ministry's functions.

The political education of the youth, both within and outside the Party school network, is said to be lagging behind in a number of localities. KIROVOGRADSKA PRAVDA (17 October) says that in a number of rayons the Komsomol committees have "severed their links" with the village youth, taking no interest in their political education. What is worse, 60 primary Komsomol organizations are not even engaged in their basic duty which is recruiting new members for the organization. A report from Drogobych (18 October) says that the oblast Party organization called a special session to improve the mass political education of the youth. A MOLOT editorial (19 October) inveighs against the practice of selecting agitators from among people who have "no inclination or desire" to do that work. Many of them, says the paper, also lack the proper qualifications. It cites the case of one agitator "who has not read a single book or subscribed to a single paper since 1946."

Not enough lectures are read on "the intrigues and war-mongering policies of the Anglo-American imperialists," complains SOTSIALISTICHESKIY DONBAS (18 October). Very little is said also about the domestic and foreign policy of the Soviet Government. In at least two rayons--Enakievo and Gorlovka--lectures for independent students have not been given at all. RADYANSKA UKRAINA asserts (19 October) that a number of Party organizations in the Government departments "are taking into their hands" tasks which are no concern of theirs, namely, administrative duties. This, says the paper, is a violation of the Communist Party Statute and it "undermines their superior Party organs." Red tape is branded as the bane of Soviet administrative activities: some complaints submitted by workers are being held for consideration for one and even two years.

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The Communist education of the intelligentsia is not up to requirements in Armenia, particularly in Erevan, according to a KOMUNIST editorial of 28 October. The Erevan intelligentsia, the paper hints, would justify additional instruction "in the spirit of flaming Soviet patriotism" (v dukhe plamennogo sovetskago patriotisma) and unlimited devotion to the cause of the Lenin-Stalin Party. Political education is dealt with again by SOTSIALISTICHESKIY DONBAS on 31 October. This time it is the Party school network which is attended by "too few" Communists. Those for whom such schools have been organized fail to benefit. Insufficient attention to Communist education is blamed for both slack attendance and the "dogmatic approach" (dogmaticheskiy podkhod) to Marxist-Leninist theories.

## SHORTCOMINGS

Agriculture: The chronic inefficiency in the utilization of agricultural machinery, particularly tractors, is played up in a number of broadcasts. While most regional sources attribute this failing to the familiar lack of control and poor organization, at least two of them admit that better living conditions for tractor drivers could improve the situation. CHERNOMORSKA KOMUNA (23 October) discusses the poor performance of men and machines in a number of rayons and suggests a more thorough study of the living conditions of the tractor drivers which the appropriate authorities apparently "never bothered to make!" The deterioration of leadership in agriculture, says the paper, is also responsible for the bad maintenance of machinery. It is also utilized to "only a small degree" of its capacity, in some cases 25-30%. The agricultural leaders, continues the editorial, "do not struggle for creating normal labor conditions for the mechanizers (tractor drivers and combine operators)." This oversight of the human element, the paper intimates, is one of the reasons for the low output. The Ovideopolska machine-tractor station, for example, is said to be plowing "not more" than 35 to 50 hectares a day because the tractor drivers are not even trying to fulfill their norm. Ovideopolskiy rayon is mentioned as a particularly bad area but a similar situation is said to exist in Andreyevo-Ivanovsky, Gaivoronsky and Troitsky rayons.

PRIDUNAYSKAYA PRAVDA (Izmail, 31 October) also maintains that the creation of normal living conditions for tractor drivers might help eliminate such shortcomings as the poor utilization of the tractor pool, inadequate maintenance and timely deliveries of fuel lubricants and water for the machines. What these tractor drivers need--and apparently do not have--according to the paper, is warm living quarters as well as good food. The result is that tractors are idle "for days on end" and the utilization of hitching equipment (pritsepschiki) is simply overlooked.

A short report from Alma Ata (17 October) refers to the tractor-repair situation in East Kazakhstan oblast as "particularly serious" (osobenno seryoznoye) but no further details are offered. In Taldy-Kurgan and Akmolinsk oblasts, many machine-tractor stations are "very slow" in starting their machine-repair work. Tractors and potato-digging machines can be seen standing idle in a number of rayons because of inadequate maintenance and breakdowns, says a dispatch from Smolensk (20 October). And this accounts for over 50% of the State potato plan not being fulfilled.

RADYANSKA UKRAINA (31 October) speaks of a number of collective farms and machine-tractor stations as being "in arrears" (v dolgu), and gives as the reason the inadequate utilization of transportation facilities. In Rovno oblast, for instance, one-third of the available trucks remain idle for days, and "not even one half" of the sugar beets have been delivered to the State. Similar transportation troubles are noted in Volyn, Lvov and Sumy oblasts. Nikolayev oblast is lagging behind (otstayet) in its cotton deliveries, and plowing is slow in Ternopol and Kamenets-Podolsk oblasts.

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- 9 -

The livestock industry is another object of complaint heard on a number of regional transmitters in the Ukraine and also in Azerbaijan where the stealing of livestock is mentioned as one of the shortcomings. NADNEPRYANSKA PRAVDA (17 October) frankly admits that "the oblast did not fulfill a single part of the 3-year livestock development plan." There is indirect reference to losses (of livestock) occasioned, as the paper puts it, by the failure to introduce the "livestock accounting and preservation" system and to provide sufficient fodder. The situation is called "especially serious" in Kalininsky, Bolshe-Alexandrovsky, Novo-Mayachkovsky and Kherson rayons. Far from introducing any improvements, these rayons are said to have failed in the maintenance of the existing stock. In Odessa oblast, the bottleneck in the livestock industry is insufficient fodder, according to CHERNOMORSKA KOMUNA (18 October). In the oblast as a whole, says the paper, the plan has been fulfilled by 62.1%, and in some rayons by only 38.1%.

That the stock-breeding situation in Azerbaijan is grave enough to elicit the concern of the highest Republican authorities is evident from a report from Baku (in Azerbaijani, 19 October). A joint resolution of the Central Committee of the Azerbaijan Communist Party and the Council of Ministers bids the various ministries concerned to "take definite measures" to increase the number of animals of every kind and their productivity. The resolution also states that the Party and the government "consider as doubtful" the reports on the losses of animals submitted by 14 rayons, and calls upon the ministers of agriculture, kolkhozes, cotton production and foodstuffs to reexamine the reports by 1 November with a view to ascertaining the actual losses sustained. The resolution leaves no doubt as to the official view that the excessive losses of stock are not necessarily due to natural causes. The Republican prosecutor Rahimov is directed to take up immediately all "matters connected with the stealing and dispersing" of communal stock. Members of the Central Committee of the Party are to be sent to the affected areas for direct supervision of the livestock industry, and the "comrades in the rayons" in charge of stockbreeding are told that hereafter they will be held personally responsible for increasing the number of animals.

ORLOVSKAYA PRAVDA (19 October) claims that the oblast as a whole is "disgracefully lagging behind" its grain delivery plan. A number of rayons--Urinsky, Korsakovsky, Orlovsky, Izmailkovo, Stanovlyansky, Russko-Brodsky and others--have "in effect discontinued their grain deliveries" in October (po sushchestvu prekratili vyvozku zerna na gosudarstvennie sklady). A number of unnamed leaders are accused of the lack of responsibility and of "open concessions to the disorganizers of the work and violators of the grain-procurement law" (stali na put pryamykh ustupok dezorganizatoram raboty, narushitelyam zakona o khlebozagotovkakh). A considerable over-expenditure of grain for domestic needs (pereraskhod zerna dlya domashnikh nuzhd) has been discovered in a number of collective farms at a time when their grain deliveries are "far behind schedule." The paper rebukes the collective farm chairmen who "are hoping, as in the past years, to take cover behind the successes of the leading kolkhozes" (nadeyutsya, kak i v proshlie gody, pryatatsya a za spinoi peredovikov). It may be worth mentioning here that one of the officials resolutely condemned by the oblast Party Committee for their "reprehensible attitude and dealings" is Volkov, the Oblast Public Prosecutor for the fight against criminal infractions of the grain delivery laws.

Industry: The only report on industrial failings is heard from Proskurov, Kamenets-Podolsk oblast. The following industrial enterprises have failed to achieve their production targets for the 3d quarter of the current year, according to RYANSKE PODILYE (28 October): the oblast local industry enterprises, the timber-processing concern, Proskurov and Shepetovka meat-processing combines and several others. There is no reference to the nature and extent of their failings except the remark that the "superficial management" of those enterprises was sharply criticized.

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